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Attention:

Subject: Task Order "F"

1. We have received the results of your initial tests on the identification kit and the following observations were made concerning the sample compositions.

A. Testing Bias

Two series of tests were performed using two different identification kits. One was the large travel kit while the other was the small packet kit. The two types are distinct in that the larger one has separate classifications for eyes and eyebrows; in the small kit, these two classifications are combined into one. The series utilizing the travel kit consisted of thirty-five (35) tests, while those utilizing the packet kit consisted of forty-seven (47) tests. No significant differences between the two series were noted concerning the number of times any one particular characteristic was used in classifications "C", "H", "D" and "G". Certain possibly significant differences in usage were observed in the following classifications:

Noses

It appeared that Series A was slightly biased toward the use of N-20 while Series B was slightly biased toward N-12. N-20 was used six times in Series A and not at all in Series B, while N-12 was used nine times in Series B and only twice in Series A.

Eyes

In Series A, E-13 was used ten times, and only once in Series B, while E-15 was used seven times in Series B and not at all in Series A. This seemed to indicate that Series A was slightly biased toward E-13 and Series B in favor of E-15.

Lips

Characteristic L-28 was used thirteen times in Series A to four times in Series B. This could mean that A was biased toward L-28. There did not seem to be a similar tendency existing in B.

Age Lines

The results of Series A and B tended to indicate that Series A was biased in favor of A-3 (used eight times in A to once in B) and that Series B was biased toward A-1 which was used twelve times in B and only four times in A.

The frequency of usage of other individual characteristics appeared to be similar in both sets, other than the exceptions noted.

B. Recurrence of Features

It could be seen from the results of the eighty-two test cases run that certain characteristics in each classification were used more often than the others. This was true not only in the classifications in which possible operator bias has been dicussed but in the classifications in which no apparent bias has been noted as well. The frequencies of recurrence observed were as follows:

Characteristic	Times Used	Characteristics	Times Used
C- 8	10	D-15	12
C- 5	8	L-28	17
H-31	9	A- 1	16
N-14	12	A- 3	9
N-12	11	B- 3	7
N- 8	11	B- 7	11
N-18	10	B- 6	10
E-13	10	F- 1	13

In each of the above cases, the remaining characteristics within each classification were used, on the average, only half as often or less while some were used not at all.

C. Possible Revisions

A total of only two-hundred foils were used of the three-hundred and sixty-three (363) possible, or only 55%. While the number of test cases were certainly limited in view of the extremely large number of possible combinations, these results indicated that possibly some revisions in the total number of foils should be made.

In classification "C", twenty-nine characteristics out of a total of thirty-six were used, or 81%. This could indicate that more characteristics in this classification are needed. It was noted that the receding chin and cleft chin characteristics were not available and that it might be desirable to add these as foils.

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Sixty-four percent (35 out of 55) of the "H" classification foils were used in the eighty-two samples tested. It was felt that while this was a reasonable number to be expected and that only a few minor changes or additions apparently should be made, an alternative is possible in which the limited availability of hairlines (H), channeled the use of only few representative foils. A similar situation was noted with respect to the "N" classification with the same results being obtained.

The numerical results in classifications "E" and "D" were identical in that thirty-three characteristics were utilized out of seventy-three available, or 45%. It was felt that these results indicated a definite need to reduce the number of characteristics in both of these classifications.

It was felt that only a relatively few minor changes or additions need to be made in the "L", "A", "G" and "B" classifications since the number of characteristics used in each classification were at a reasonable and expected level. The percentages of the foils used out of the totals available were 73, 57, 50, and 40% respectively.

Only 25% of the twenty available characteristics in the "F" classification were used; therefore, it was felt that the total number available definitely should be reduced. The suggestion has been made that only four characteristics should be provided to simulate the entire range of characteristics under consideration. Another suggestion was made to the effect that provision be made for compensating for the coloring effect of several thicknesses of foils.

2. In accordance with our discussion at the conference held 2 July 1957, I trust that you will distribute this data to interested parties.

Very truly yours,

[redacted] 25X1

Chief Engineer

SLS:f
Registered Mail
Return Receipt Requested

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